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SUBJECT Medical Corps of the 4 Field Army

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1. The Medical Corps of the 4 Field Army consists of three Medical Departments (I Kuan Ch'u 醫官處). Each department has six hospitals and each hospital has three clinics (So 所). A clinic consists of the following sections:
  - a. Medical Section (I Liao Tsu 醫療組)
  - b. Supply Section (Pu Chi Tsu 補給組)
  - c. Medical Affairs Section (I Wu Tsu 醫務組). The section has two Nurses Platoons and each platoon has three sections.
  - d. Political Administration Section (Cheng Chih Tsu 政治組).
2. A hospital normally handles 1,500 patients, and under no circumstances may it take more than 1,800 patients. The administrative director, medical director, and political instructor of the clinic are on the same level. In addition, there are usually about 40 cadres (including 6 to 7 doctors and an ancillary staff of 130 to 140 (including 40 to 50 nurses and 50 to 60 medical orderlies)).
3. Doctors are Chinese or Japanese and receive equal treatment. Since the Communist occupation of China, many Nationalist civil and military doctors have joined military hospitals. There are no Soviet doctors or medical technicians actually working in military hospitals. However, medical advisory groups of two or three Soviets in Communist army uniforms are available for consultation. There is such a group in Canton. Many of the Japanese doctors are specialists and some of them are German-trained.
4. The nurses, both male and female, are Chinese and Japanese. Nurses are known as "technical nurses" (i.e., fully trained) or "well-experienced nurses" (i.e., learning as they work). The Chinese nurses usually have about six months' training in Manchuria and then learn by experience.
5. The organization of the medical services is on orthodox Chinese Communist Army lines and the Political Department is supreme. Doctors and nurses

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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attend the daily disciplinary and self-confession sessions, for which all work ceases.

6. Doctors are graded on regular military lines by a Cadres Assessment Committee (P'ing Kan Wei Yuan Hui 評幹委員會). They are given ranks as cadres of company, battalion, or higher unit level in accordance with the committee's assessment of their technique, character, thought, and working spirit. Their pay consists of three allowances: ordinary, health, and technical. For example, a cadre of battalion level received in April 1950:

Technical allowance-----JMP 200,000  
 Ordinary allowance-----JMP 20,000  
 Health allowance----- (Monthly pork allowance)

Doctors are permitted occasionally to go into town and cities. They do not carry arms.

7. Medical supplies are very short and were originally almost entirely captured Nationalist stocks. Such drugs as penicillin, streptomycin, atabrine, paludrine, metabrine, and sulfa are available in small quantities and are used very sparingly. Drugs manufactured in the USSR are now being received. These drugs are of inferior quality and repacked in Chinese containers when they reach North China. Communist propaganda is laying great stress on the evils of "capitalist medicines," which came attractively packaged, and is stressing the utilitarian nature of Communist medicaments. In addition, the Communists are examining the possibilities of developing native Chinese treatments and pharmacology, but they do not accept traditional Chinese medical practice in its entirety. A medical journal, Health News (Chien K'ang Jih Pao 健康日報), is circulated among doctors only.
8. There is a limited amount of specialized medical equipment, such as X-ray. In case of necessity the assistance of civil hospitals is sought but security precautions are taken in such cases to prevent doctors and patients from possible foreign "contamination". There is no established liaison with civil medical authorities.
9. The most common diseases are rheumatic fever, dysentery, stomach ulcers, and diseases caused by vitamin deficiencies. The rate of tuberculosis is not high and the incidence of venereal disease is low. The treatment of complaints which in the western world would require sun-ray and other apparatus is attempted by suggestion or some form of crude physiotherapy because the Chinese lack the specialized equipment and also have an antipathy to it. Although the traditional Chinese practice of acupuncture is not officially condoned, a modified form of it has been used to treat cases of arthritis.
10. There is no official military medical documentation for troops. A combined cholera and typhoid injection is given to each soldier once a year, but the individual is responsible as a matter of personal discipline for getting this done. Vaccination is not regular or compulsory.
11. There are no instructions for anti-gas training.
12. Sanitary inspections by doctors of cookhouses, billets, and other buildings are not regular or official but occur occasionally. Supplies of DDT are available but doctors are not generally familiar with its uses.
13. The Medical Corps does not have its own transport but draws it as required from the Service Corps. A few captured American ambulances and converted trucks are used for carrying patients. The Red Cross insignia is not normally used but litter bearers on the field of battle sometimes carry Red Cross flags.\*

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